

Claims

I claim:

1. A method of operating a distributed processing system, comprising:
5 providing a server system;
coupling the server system to a network, the network being configured to be coupled to
distributed devices;
storing data representing a plurality of attributes for a plurality of the distributed devices;
and
10 utilizing at least one of the plurality of attributes to identify a subset of the plurality of
distributed devices.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising distributing an advertisement to the identified
subset of distributed devices.
- 15 3. The method of claim 1, further comprising distributing a project workload to the
identified subset of distributed devices.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of attributes comprise device capability
20 information for the distributed devices.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the utilized attribute comprises microprocessor device
capability information, the microprocessor device capability information including
microprocessor type and speed.
- 25 6. The method of claim 5, further comprising distributing a project workload to the
identified subset of distributed devices.

7. The method of claim 4, wherein the utilized attribute comprises memory fault information, the memory fault information identifying memory faults occurring on the distributed devices, and further comprising distributing an advertisement to the identified subset of distributed devices.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the utilized attribute comprises information concerning users of the distributed devices.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising distributing an advertisement to the identified subset of distributed devices.

10. The method of claim 8, further comprising distributing a project workload to the identified subset of distributed devices.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the utilized user information attribute comprises organization affiliations.

12. The method of claim 1, further comprising allowing a customer to identify an attribute to be utilized and obtaining information about the attribute from the distributed devices.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the identified attribute comprises device capabilities and further comprising distributing a project workload to the identified subset of distributed devices.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the project workload comprises a human genome analysis workload.

15. The method of claim 12, wherein the identified attribute comprises information concerning users of the distributed devices and further comprising distributing an advertisement to the identified subset of distributed devices.

16. A distributed processing system, comprising:
a first system coupled to a network, the network being configured to be coupled to
distributed devices; and
5 a database storing attribute information for a plurality of the distributed devices, the first
system utilizing at least one device attribute to identify a subset of the plurality of
distributed devices.

17. The distributed processing system of claim 16, wherein an advertisement is distributed to
10 the subset of distributed devices.

18. The distributed processing system of claim 16, wherein a project workload is distributed
to the subset of distributed devices.

19. The distributed processing system of claim 16, wherein the plurality of attributes
15 comprise device capability information for the distributed devices and wherein the utilized
attribute comprises a device capability.

20. The distributed processing system of claim 16, wherein the plurality of attributes
20 comprises information concerning users of the distributed devices and wherein the utilized
attribute comprises user information.

21. The distributed processing system of claim 16, wherein the utilized device attribute
comprises an attribute selected by a customer.

22. The distributed processing system of claim 21, wherein a project workload is distributed
to the subset of distributed devices.

23. The distributed processing system of claim 22, wherein the project workload comprises a
30 human genome analysis workload.

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